

Minutes of School Committee Meeting 05/22/14

A regular meeting of the Barrington School Committee was held on Thursday, May 22, 2014, at the Administration Building. Mrs. Brody called the meeting to order at 7:34 p.m. Present were Mrs. Brody, Dr. Dominguez, Mr. Guida, Mr. Connor, Mr. Messore, Mrs. Dillon and Mr. Tarro. Dr. Shea arrived at 8:40 p.m. Absent was Mr. Fuller.

Mrs. Kate Brody introduced School Committee members present at the meeting: Student Representative Mr. Timothy Connor, Mr. Patrick Guida and Dr. Paula Dominguez, and noted that Dr. Robert Shea will be arriving late. Mrs. Brody also introduced the Administration and Central Office Staff: Superintendent Mr. Michael Messore, Director of Curriculum and Instruction Mrs. Paula Dillon, Director of Administration and Finance Mr. Ronald Tarro, and Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent Mrs. Elizabeth Levesque. School Committee member Mr. Scott Fuller was absent.

Pledge of Allegiance

Mrs. Lisa Mc Gartoll led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Achievement Recognition

Mr. Messore announced the following achievements across the district:

Barrington High School Junior Isabella Solanot, Sophomore Shannon Duffy, and Freshman Lindsay Daugherty are the winners of the Atlantic Cup's Ripple Effect Video Contest.

Barrington Middle School Science Teacher Mr. Anthony Borgueta has been honored as a state award finalist for the Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching.

The top three finishers at the Tough Tiger event at Hampden Meadows School on May 4, 2014 were: First Place - Lachlan Bishop, Hampden Meadows School 4th Grader; Second Place - Hayden Ivatts, Barrington High School Freshman; and Third Place - Kayla Duvel, Barrington Middle School 7th Grader.

The Barrington High School LifeSmarts team is featured on Credit.com and The Wall Street Journal site MarketWatch.com in an article titled *These Kids Are Better With Money Than You Are*. The team earned third place at the national LifeSmarts competition in April.

An article on professional development written by Primrose Hill School Enrichment Specialist/Literacy Coach Gino Sangiuliano titled *The More We Get Together* has been published on ASCD Express.

Eleven 7th Grade Barrington Middle School Blue Cluster students received honors in the 2014 Letters About Literature contest from the Library of Congress and Rhode Island Center for the Book. They include Amelia Pappas-Horii as a Level 2 State Winner and Nora Copple as an Honorable Mention. Among the semifinalists were: Emerson Berriman, Emily Gorman, Nicholas Goltsos, Katherine Hoag, Audrey McCarthy, Grady O'Connor, Cecily Rea, Camden Reed and Amanda Woodard.

Director of Curriculum and Instruction Paula Dillon was mentioned in a recent blog post titled *Smart Cities* by Tom Vander Ark about the Third Annual Blended Learning and Technology Conference held

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on May 3, 2014 at which Mrs. Dillon was a conference speaker.

On March 12, 2014, 114 Barrington High School students participated in the National Latin Exam. Of the 114 students, 73 students received awards by scoring above the national average. Of those 73 students, 10 had a perfect score. Seniors William Klimpert and Emma Margulies have earned gold medals for all four years in Latin.

Nayatt School Librarian Mrs. CherylAnn Bertoncini and Enrichment Specialist/Literacy Coach Mrs. Claudia Muccino coordinated the Second Grade Family Book Club for the K-3 schools with more than 100 participants. The author of the book selected, Patrick Jennings, has since blogged about the event.

Mr. Messore and the School Committee offered congratulations and best wishes to Mr. Jonathan Louttit for success in his new career. Mr. Louttit has provided media service at the School Committee meetings.

BPS Spotlight on Teaching and Learning

Mr. Messore introduced the Barrington Middle School Robotics Team Overflow who provided a demonstration of their competition presentation that won the team the First Place Champion's Award and First Place Robot Performance Award at the First Lego League (FLL) State Championship. The team is set to compete next at the FLL International Open in Toronto, Canada. Team Overflow members present were: Riddhi Adhiya, Andrew Cooke, Theenash Kumar, Elliott Laidlaw, Conor Mc Gartoll and Sam Wohlever. Team member Kyle Villella was not present. Mr. Messore thanked Mrs. Lisa Mc Gartoll for the countless number of hours served as a Barrington Middle School Robotics Coach.

Information and Proposals

Mr. Messore introduced Guidance Department Chair Mrs. Toni Corry who provided an end of year summary update on Naviance data. Naviance is the web-based planning and advising system used by the Barrington High School (BHS) Guidance Department. Mrs. Corry's overview included the program's usage by the Class of 2014, the list of colleges with the highest number of BHS applicants, Naviance features including Scattergrams and College Match, and information on collaborations with other high schools. Mrs. Corry also overviewed the Guidance Department curriculum and mission. Discussion ensued on how data is used to help students, the value of the system, and how expectations are defined to populate the data. Mr. Messore stressed the importance of the role of the guidance counselor.

General Public Discussion and Information

No issues were raised at this time.

Old Business from Superintendent and Staff

Mr. Messore provided updates relating to the District Strategic Communication Plan. The selection of the communications/media specialist is in the final stages. A student forum for Barrington High School underclassmen is set to be scheduled in early June with the sole topic of student stress. Barrington High School held its first Career and College Day for members of the freshman and sophomore classes with a tremendous outcome, where many community members participated and spoke to students. Volunteer

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Coordinator Mrs. Tracey Orchard coordinated the event. The High School's Advisory Program will be featured at a future meeting. Discussion ensued on how the event was communicated, format, timeline, overall goal, as well as the importance of feedback from the event.

Old Business from School Committee

The Committee agreed to move the Student Representative to the School Committee agenda item to later in the meeting after the arrival of Dr. Shea.

No formal Building Committee was provided at this time. Bid award requests will be presented later in the meeting. When asked by Mrs. Brody if improvements to the Primrose Hill School parking lot were part of Phase I or II of the Immediate Health and Safety Project, Mr. Tarro stated that it would be included in Phase II and that approval would be needed from the Rhode Island Department of Education.

Mr. Tarro stated that the Financial Town Meeting will be held on May 28, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. at Barrington High School. The adjusted FY15 proposed budget increase is \$1,038,000 with a net impact of 0.59% to taxpayers representing a total of \$265,511. Mr. Tarro noted that All Day Kindergarten numbers may fluctuate due to enrollment. Mrs. Brody added that the Committee on Appropriations is expected to post its presentation on the Town of Barrington website. The School Committee will be sharing their budget narrative on the Barrington Public Schools website and with parents via email.

New Business from Superintendent and Staff

Mr. Tarro reported that the State of Rhode Island, through the oversight of the Rhode Island Department of Education (RIDE), issued a bond to support the increase of wireless access in the classroom also known as the WCI Project. Information was provided to the Committee prior to the meeting and it was recommended by the administration to award the bid to the lowest, evaluated, and qualified bidder, Whalley Computer Associates, Milford, MA, for an amount not to exceed \$368,884.91.

Dr. Dominguez moved and Mr. Guida seconded to award the Wireless Classroom Initiative (WCI) Project bid to the lowest, evaluated, and qualified bidder, Whalley Computer Associates, for an amount not to exceed \$368,884.91. The motion passed 4-0 with Mrs. Brody, Dr. Dominguez, Mr. Guida and Dr. Shea voting in the affirmative for the motion.

Mr. Tarro reported that one bid was received for the Barrington High School Auditorium Light Board Upgrade. Funding for the project has been provided by a grant from the Barrington Education Foundation. Information was provided to the Committee for its reference prior to the meeting and it was recommended by the administration to award the bid to the lowest, evaluated, qualified bidder, Port Lighting System, Seabrook, NH, for an amount not to exceed \$14,042.67, contingent upon a satisfactory response to additional questions regarding their proposal.

Dr. Dominguez moved and Mr. Guida seconded to award the Barrington High School Auditorium Light Board Upgrade bid to the lowest, evaluated, and qualified bidder, Port Lighting System, for an amount not to exceed \$14,042.67, contingent upon satisfactory response to additional questions regarding their proposal. The motion passed 4-0 with Mrs. Brody, Dr. Dominguez, Mr. Guida and Dr. Shea voting in the affirmative for the motion.

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Mr. Tarro reported that three bids were received for the Immediate Health and Safety Project – Phase I. The project will allow the administration to address deficiencies identified during the comprehensive facilities evaluation in December 2010. A memo and bid tabulation sheet prepared by Thomas Lonardo, Architect, was provided to the Committee prior to the meeting and it was recommended by the administration to award the bid to the lowest, evaluated, qualified bidder, Bahry Building Company, East Providence, RI, for an amount no to exceed \$1,149,300.00. Following discussion,

Dr. Dominguez moved and Mr. Guida seconded to award the Immediate Health and Safety Project – Phase I bid to the lowest, evaluated, and qualified bidder, Bahry Building Company, for an amount not to exceed \$1,149,300.00. The motion passed 4-0 with Mrs. Brody, Dr. Dominguez, Mr. Guida and Dr. Shea voting in the affirmative for the motion.

Old Business from School Committee (continued)

The Committee agreed to move the Student Representative to the School Committee agenda to this portion of the meeting. Dr. Shea led the Committee farewell and gift presentation to Mr. Timothy Connor, Student Representative to the School Committee for the 2013-2014 school year. Mr. Connor thanked the Committee, the administration, and Mr. Hurley for being good role models and providing the opportunity for a student voice to be heard at the School Committee level. Each Committee member, along with Mr. Messore, expressed their appreciation to Mr. Connor for his service.

New Business from School Committee

No new business from the School Committee was presented at this time.

Decision Items

Dr. Dominguez moved and Mr. Guida seconded to approve the consent agenda. The motion passed 4-0 with Mrs. Brody, Dr. Dominguez, Mr. Guida and Dr. Shea voting in the affirmative for the motion.

Discussion Future Agenda Items

Mrs. Brody noted that the policy revision to the Free and Reduced-Price Meals and/or Free Milk policy will be presented for a first reading at a future meeting.

Mrs. Brody requested a follow up to the discussion on the extension of neurological testing at Barrington Middle School. Dr. Shea added that he would like to provide an update, if available, to the Health and Wellness Committee at their last meeting of the academic year on June 5, 2014.

Mr. Messore reported that the athletic training wall at the Barrington Middle School is up and is a great opportunity for student use, adding that safety concerns have been addressed and drainage is in place.

General Discussion to Guide Future Recommendations

**SCHOOL COMMITTEE
BARRINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BARRINGTON, RHODE ISLAND**

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Mr. Messore reported that the next regular meeting of the School Committee on Thursday, June 5, 2014 will feature an achievement data report update from the Grades K-8 principals, evaluation of programs, and a bullying policy update. The School Committee on Thursday, June 19, 2014 will include a presentation on the Advisory Program at Barrington High School.

Mrs. Brody noted that the Barrington Troop 2 Boy Scout ceremony to recognize those scouts who have achieved the rank of Eagle Scout will be held at Town Hall following the Memorial Day Parade. The Financial Town Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 28, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. at Barrington High School. The Town Charter Review Commission is scheduled to present its recommendations for revisions to the Town Charter to the Town Council at the Town Council meeting on June 2, 2014.

General Public Discussion and Information

No issues were raised at this time.

Dr. Dominguez moved and Mr. Guida seconded to adjourn the regular meeting at 9:09 p.m. and go into Executive Session pursuant to Rhode Island General Laws Section 42-46-5(a)(3) for discussion relative to school buildings security issues. The motion passed 4-0 with Mrs. Brody, Dr. Dominguez, Mr. Guida and Dr. Shea voting in the affirmative for the motion.

Dr. Dominguez moved and Dr. Shea seconded to adjourn the Executive Session at 9:16 p.m. and to seal the minutes and report that no votes were taken. The motion passed 4-0 with Mrs. Brody, Dr. Dominguez, Mr. Guida and Dr. Shea voting in the affirmative for the motion.

Dr. Dominguez moved and Dr. Shea seconded to adjourn the regular meeting at 9:17 p.m. The motion passed 4-0 with Mrs. Brody, Dr. Dominguez, Mr. Guida and Dr. Shea voting in the affirmative for the motion.